

M Scott / Architectural Design

Heritage Impact Statement

For

Proposed New Boundary Fencing

At

Standalone Farm Wilbury Rd, Letchworth Garden City SG6 4JN



1. Introduction

This Heritage Impact Statement assesses the proposed replacement and new boundary fencing around the curtilage of the farmhouse. It also includes a section of close boarded fencing to create some privacy to the farm manager.

2. Project Description

The proposal includes:

- New and replacement post & wire fencing to the boundary. The fencing will be in the position shown on the site plan and match the existing stock fencing as shown in the picture above.
- 1.8m high close boarded fencing in the position shown on the site plan to create some privacy. The fencing will be supported on timber posts as shown in the image below.

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- 5 bar timber gates in the positions shown. The width of these gates varies and is noted on the drawing.



3. Heritage Context

- The building and farm have a long history, and this can be read on the Standalone Farm's web page <https://standalonefarm.com/our-story/>. The farmhouse was occupied by the farm manager up to a few years ago when the previous manager left. The Farm now has a new manager who is looking forward to moving into the house once the renovations and alterations have been completed. The house has not been upgraded for many years and is currently undergoing the renovations that are due to be completed in the next month.

4. Assessment of Impact

- Impact on Historical Fabric: The proposed post and wire fencing is traditional farming fencing and is in keeping with the area.
- Visual Impact: The close-boarded fencing, standing at 1.8 meters high, will effectively screen the house from the public area where the Men in Sheds work from. The post and wire fencing will not impact on the house or setting as it is the same as much of the fencing on site.
- The new fencing will protect the occupants from livestock and protect the public from straying into the private amenity space.

5. Mitigation Measures

To further ensure the minimal heritage impact of the proposed installation, the following measures will be implemented:

1. Fencing Design:

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- The close-boarded fencing will be constructed from materials that are sympathetic to the surrounding character, using finishes that complement the existing heritage structures.
 - The post and wire fencing in traditional farm fencing.
2. Construction Management:
 - A construction management plan will be developed to minimize ground disturbance and protect the immediate historical context during installation. This plan will include protective measures to safeguard existing vegetation and any nearby heritage features.
 3. Post-Construction Monitoring:
 - Following installation, the site will be monitored to ensure that the integrity of the heritage dwelling remains intact and that no unforeseen impacts arise from the new installation.

6. Conclusion

The proposal for the new fencing is designed with careful consideration of the heritage context. With a significant distance from the historical dwelling and thoughtful design elements aimed at reducing visual impact, the project will not compromise the historical fabric of the area.

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